

# YOUR TOWN HALL

## **NEWLY ELECTED COMMITTEEMAN, MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR TAKE OATH OF OFFICE**

January 3, 2010 marked the reorganization of the township. After the swearing in of newly elected Committeeman, Steve Massell, the position of mayor and deputy mayor were voted upon. The majority of the Committee voted Gerald Scharfenberger as mayor and Anthony Fiore as deputy mayor. According to the town charter, these positions are ceremonial in nature and used so that meetings can be conducted in an orderly manner, with one Committee member chairing the meeting. The mayor also signs ordinances and resolutions that are passed by the Committee.

## **REORGANIZATION OF THE TOWNSHIP CONSIST OF APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS & BOARDS**

The Committee voted on 53 resolutions to appoint people to various positions on boards and commissions. Overall, a major portion of the resolutions were voted by consent meaning that they were voted on in a block.

Resolutions, 10-01, 02, 03, 04, 22, 27, 28, 32 and 50 required a separate vote because they were requested by different Committee people to be pulled from the consent agenda for a separate vote.

Resolutions 10-01 and 02 were voted on initially, before the election of mayor and deputy, because an attorney was needed to oversee the proceedings. The vote to appoint Brian Nelson, Esq., as Township Attorney was unanimous. Before the vote was taken on Resolution 10-02, Committeeman Sean Byrnes made a motion to amend the resolution so that the fee paid to the General Special

Counsel was a flat monthly rate of \$15k per month, instead of the \$234k per year. Mr. Byrnes stated that the amended fee is more in line with what the town can handle in the budget and would greatly reduce the amount the town had to expend for this firm. He felt that the recommended fee was more than adequate for the services that were to be performed. There was no second on the motion and the original resolution passed with a vote of 4-1, with Mr. Byrnes voting no.

Resolution 10-04 was removed from the consent agenda for a separate vote by Committeeman Massell. He abstained from voting for his brother who was being appointed as Municipal Prosecutor. The resolution was approved with a vote of 4-0-1.

Resolution 10-22 was voted separately and passed with a vote of 4-1. After the vote, Mrs. Brightbill commented that she voted yes because she was assured that he would not be taking health benefits through this position. Mr. Byrnes commented, after the vote, that he had similar concerns and requested information from the Sewer Authority but it was denied. He went on to say that by reappointing sitting members provides the potential for the members to enroll in the health benefit program and continue in the pension state system.

Resolution 10-27, to appoint Municipal Bond Counsel, was voted separately and passed with a vote of 4-1, with Mr. Byrnes providing the vote of disapproval.

Resolution 10-28 to appoint the Township Consulting Engineer passed with a vote of 4-1. Mr. Byrnes made a motion, before the vote, to amend the resolution so that the town preapproves 4-5 qualified engineering firms on record and have the firms competitively bid for each project. There was no second to the proposed motion and the vote was taken.

Resolution 10-32, to appoint Special Counsel for Labor Contract Matters, passed

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with a 4-1 vote. After the vote Mr. Byrnes commented that he voted no because this appointed firm is also counsel for the Sewer Authority and the potential for conflict exists. Mr. Scharfenberger asked Mr. Nelson to clarify the position that the firm has. Mr. Nelson stated this firm would only be handling labor contracts with bargaining units in the township and not with the Sewer Authority.

Resolution 10-50 to authorize a temporary budget for 2010 passed with a vote of 4-1 with Mr. Byrnes voting no with comment. Mr. Fiore and Scharfenberger both voted yes with comment. After the vote Mr. Byrnes voiced his concerns that the town has not formalized a plan to address the shortfall in the budget before voting to appropriate the spending of 25% of it.

Mr. Fiore took exception to the comment of not having a plan. He felt it was an unfair comment because he has not received a memorandum from the administrator but has had many conversations with him and department heads.

Mr. Scharfenberger stated that we have to be able to run the town. He feels that it is untrue that we don't have a plan for the budget. He is satisfied that concrete steps are being taken to address the budget shortfall. He went on to point out that there are a slew of programs that are being used to address the oncoming problems that we will face in 2010, but he did not specify what that plan is.

## COMMITTEE COMMENTS

In the past when a new member of the Committee was seated the policy was to let him/her provide comments to the public first. This year the mayor decided that Mr. Byrnes would speak first.

Mr. Byrnes started by stating that he assumed that the order to speak was done by seniority but had no problem speaking first.

He congratulated Mr. Massell to the Committee and that his family has a long history in the town. He praised the volunteers that were appointed that day and that they provide a great service to the town. He also went on to thank Mrs. Brightbill for the great effort that she put in as mayor last year.

Mr. Byrnes said that he would continue to focus on the budget, as he has in past years. The pension contribution will be larger than the contribution that was deferred last year. Mr. Byrnes did make a few recommendations such as consolidating property maintenance operations within the public works department and parks and recreation departments. He said that about \$1M in the parks and recreation department goes towards property maintenance. The town could possibly share property maintenance with the Board of Education. The town could do more outsourcing of services like leaf collection. If we could cut trash pickup to one day a week it would reduce the trash budget by half. Professional contracts should be reworded so that one firm gets all of the work. The work should be bid on by project. Consolidating the Arts Center and the Library would mean there is no duplication in services that are provided. The method of running the Arts center needs to be done more effectively than the way it is done now. Suggestions were also made with the way the state needs to restructure how business is conducted to provide relief to the towns.

He has called for a Finance committee to get some solid recommendations to help us cut taxes.

Mr. Massell thanked his wife and family for supporting him during the campaign. He thanked his mother, father and brother for helping him during the campaign. He thanked the dignitaries for coming out to swear him in and he also thanked the voters for voting him into office. He said that he

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would work as hard as he can to exceed everyone's expectations.

Mrs. Brightbill congratulated Steve and said that they all have different strengths on the Committee. She looks forward to serving on the various committees that she is most passionate about.

Mayor Scharfenberger stated that today's meeting was a little more streamlined than in the past. He said that we already share services with the Board of Education and maybe we can do more if both sides can come to an agreement. One day a week trash pickup is looked at every time the contract is up and there are pluses and minuses to it like everything else.

He is often opposed to adding new staff to the township and that they have reduced the number of employees through attrition over the years.

As far as the Finance Committee is concerned, this is an area that he and Mr. Byrnes disagree with. We already have a Finance Committee with the 5 of them and they should all put in an equal effort. He stated that none of them are super experts in finances by profession and we kind of do it by osmosis. He said that he has many years of working on budgets and is immersed and he knows that he can speak to department heads about cutting their budget. He is all for cutting the budget, but does not want to sacrifice the services that are provided as long as we have a choice. They are trying to do the best they can.

Mr. Scharfenberger mentioned that he is on the governor-elect's transition team and he expects good things to be coming out of Trenton this year.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Nicolas welcomed Mr. Massell to the Committee and thanked Mr. Byrnes for some comprehensive ways to reduce spending. He added to the list such as stop borrowing

money that drives up our debt and not following through with the proposed salary increase recommendations voted on at the last meeting.

Carolyn Schwebel, Chairman of the Human Rights Commission, thanked the Committee for appointing 4 new members to the Human Rights Commission. She also expressed appreciation for the cooperation of the former mayor to help the SPCA with the food drive for them. She also wanted to recognize Dr. Don Tow as a past member of the Human Rights Commission and hope that he will come back to the Commission soon.

## **LIST OF APPOINTEES**

The following is a list of the appointees to the various committees, commissions, boards and professional service positions that were made during Reorganization Day. The term of service and fees paid to each are also listed. You can view the individual resolutions on the township website.

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<b>RESOLUTION #</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>LENGTH OF TERM</b>	<b>SALARY</b>
10-01	Township Attorney	Brian Nelson	1 yr	\$50,000
10-02	General Special Counsel	Menna Supko & Nelson LLC	1yr	\$234,000 exclusive of fees for witnesses, experts, filing fees, legal research, title work, or other reasonable approved expenses
10-03	Fire Chief	John Isaksen	1yr	no pay
	Deputy Chief	Michael Chanoweth	1yr	no pay
	First Assistant	Jack Wankel	1yr	no pay
	Second assistant	John D'Altilio	1yr	no pay
	Third Assistant	Peter Laimann	1yr	no pay
10-04	Municipal Prosecutor	Gerald Massell	1yr	\$35,464-\$60,000
10-05	Municipal Public Defender	Stanley Werse	1yr	\$115/hr
10-06	Police Chaplains	Reverend Donald Magaw Reverend Peter S. Cooke		no pay
10-07	Bayshore Village Senior Housing Corp.	Andrew Bane	5yrs	no pay
10-08	Clean Community Advisory Committee	Pamela Brightbill Samuel R. Posten, Jr. Valerie Robertson Kenneth Walls Ted Maloney Heidi R. Brunt	1yr	no pay
10-09	Community Affairs	William Bucco Lori Ann Oliwa Thomas Finnegan Peggy Flanagan John Giordano	2yrs 3yrs 3yrs 3yrs 3yrs	no pay
10-10	Environmental Commission	Randy Mc Haney Marie Capdevielle	3yrs 1yr	no pay
10-11	Green Team Advisory Committee	Michael Fedosh Lynn Mattie Christine Bell	1yr 1yr 1yr	no pay

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10-12	Human Rights Commission	Spiro Pappas Mark Generoso Lawrence Nelsen Raymond Veth	1yr 2yrs 3yrs 3yrs	no pay
10-13	Landmarks Commission	Peter Van Nortwick James D. Moran	4yrs 4yrs	no pay
10-14	Library Board	Richard McIntosh Karen Bilbao Randall Gabrielan	1yr 1yr 5yrs	no pay
10-15	Lincroft Senior Citizen Housing Corp.	Robert Gall Steven Miller	5yrs 5yrs	no pay
10-16	Local Assistance Board	Andrew Zapcic Michael Slover	1yr 4yrs	no pay
10-17	Middletown Housing Authority	Stephanie Murray Ann Eckert	5yrs 5yrs	no pay
10-18	Municipal Alliance to Prevent Alcohol & Drug Abuse	Ashley Bedell Margaret Bertorelli Karen Bilbao Pamela Brightbill Robert W. Bucco, Jr., Vice Chairperson Peter Caras Ed Chretien Nancy Crowell Leslie Culver Anthony DiMeglio, Sr. Anthony J. Falvo Fern B. Foster, Coordinator, Non-Voting Mark A. Generoso, Non-Voting William Gerris Thomas G. Hall Eugene Hannafey James Homiak Calvin Jenkins Karen Jenkins Kristie Kane Bruce Levy	1yr	no pay

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<b>RESOLUTION #</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>LENGTH OF TERM</b>	<b>SALARY</b>
10-21	Safety Council	Frank Badali Cynthia Bianchi Karen Merezio Joe Shade Dominick Donatelli Bob Pfleger EMS Appointment Lisa Reilly Andrew Bane Anthony Iacovone Fire Dept. Representative Police Dept. Representative	1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr	no pay
10-22	Sewerage Authority	Clifford G. Raisch	6yrs	
10-23	Zoning Board of Adjustment	Emil Wrede Chantal Bouw James Hinckley Tristan Nelsen Gail Sonatore Margarate Mavrinack Kevin Settembrino Joe Zacardo	4yrs 4yrs 4yrs 2yrs 2yrs 1yr 2yrs 1yr	no pay
10-24	Police Physicians	Dr. Nicolas Spetko Meridian / Riverview Occupational Health Unit	1yr	?
10-25	Special Crossing Guards	Cpl. Bernie Chenoweth Matthew Viaud Michael Kaiser Dan Flannigan Frank Latorto Wilber Kerner Ryan Schoelliner Edward Greeley Brian McDonald	1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr 1yr	?
10-26	Township Auditor	Randy Nelson, RMA - Ernst & Young	1yr	\$92,500

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RESOLUTION #	POSITION	NAME	LENGTH OF TERM	SALARY
10-27	Bond Counsel	Gibbons PC	1yr	Up to \$25,000/transaction + filing fees, legal research+ other approved expenses
10-28	Consulting Engineer	T&M Associates	1yr	?
10-29	Conflict Engineer	Van Cleef Engineering Assoc.	1yr	?
10-30	Consulting Traffic Engineer	Maser Consulting	1yr	?
10-31	General Labor Counsel	Scarcini & Hollenbeck	1yr	\$130/hr up to \$25,000 + fees for witnesses, experts, filing fees, legal research, or other reasonable approved expenses
10-32	Labor Counsel For Contracts	Genova Burns & Vernoia	1yr	\$150/hr up to \$25,000 + fees for witnesses, experts, filing fees, legal research, or other reasonable approved expenses
10-33	Workers Compensation Counsel	John Lane, Esq & Richard Leahy, Esq	1yr	\$100/hr up to \$17,500 + fees for witnesses, experts, filing fees, legal research, or other reasonable approved expenses
10-34	Tax Appeals & Foreclosure Counsel	Berenard M. Reilly, Esq	1yr	\$130/hr up to \$50,000 + fees for witnesses, experts, filing fees, legal research, title work, or other reasonable approved expenses
10-35	Government Affairs Counsel	Duane Morris Government Affairs LLC	11 months	\$200/hr up to \$30,000
10-36	Consulting Environmental Engineer	French & Parello	1yr	?
10-37	Employee Assistance Program Services	Employee Consulting Associates	1yr	\$10,475 + certain out of pocket costs
10-38	Insurance Broker of Record & Risk Management Consultant	Peter Soriero of Allied Risk Management	1yr	?
10-39	Official Depositories	PNC Bank, Sovereign Bank, New Jersey Cash Management Fund, NJ/ARM Asset & Rebate Management Program, MBIA Investors Service Corporation, Columbia Savings Bank, TD Bank, Two Rivers Community Bank, First Savings Bank, Amboy National Bank, Provident Bank, Bank Of America, Valley National Bank, and Investors Savings Bank	1yr	?

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<b>RESOLUTION #</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>LENGTH OF TERM</b>	<b>SALARY</b>
10-40	Official Newspapers	The Star Ledger, The Asbury Park Press, The Independent and The Two River Times	1yr	?
10-41	Registrar of Vital Statistics	Steven McKee - Health Officer	3yrs	?
10-42	Official Searcher	Heidi Brunt - Township Clerk	1yr	?
10-43	Tax Searcher	Robert Karpal - Tax Collector	1yr	?
10-44	Announce Dates for Twp Committee Meetings			
10-45	Announcement of Quarterly Swim Club Utility Meetings			
10-46	Appointing Members of Swim Club Utility	Pamela Brightbill, Sean Byrnes, Anthony Fiore, Steve Massell, Gerard Scharfenberger	1yr	
10-47	Establish Roberts Rules of Order			
10-48	Establishing Standing Rules			
10-49	Imposition of a 6% Penalty on All Delinquent Taxes of \$10k			
10-50	Authorizing a Temporary Budget for 2010			
10-51	Extension of Contract For Delta Dental Admin & Network Services			
10-52	Extension of Contract For Prescription Admin Services			
10-53	Ins. Policy For Accident & Sickness Coverage For Fire Dept & First Aid Members			